12.00 NOON

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL(DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (d) No such recommendation has been made to the Ministry of Mines by the High Powered Consultative Panel. However, the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Steel in its meeting held on 7th November, 2007 at Chandigarh expressed concern about the need to ensure availability of critical raw materials like iron ore and coking coal to cater to both present as well as post expansion needs of steel plants. The Consultative Committee was also unanimously of the view that the unbridled export of iron ore must be curbed. Details of action taken on the recommendations of the Consultative Committee will be laid on the table of the House.

Demand for total ban on export of iron ore

2094. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering the demand of steel workers *i.e.* the total ban on export of the iron ore especially the hematite variety and conserves this precious raw material that can be used for making steel in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) No proposal regarding total ban on export of iron ore is presently under consideration of the Government.

[The VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Reports and Accounts (2006-07) of the various Power Corporations and related papers

II. Report (2006-07) of CERC, New Delhi

III. Report and Accounts (2006-07) of CPRI Bangalore and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Sushilkumar Shinde, I beg to lay on the Table:

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i)(a) Nineteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited (THDC), Tehri (Garhwal), for the year 2006-2007, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7847/07]

(ii)(a) Thirty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the National Thermal Power Croporation Limited (NTPC), New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.